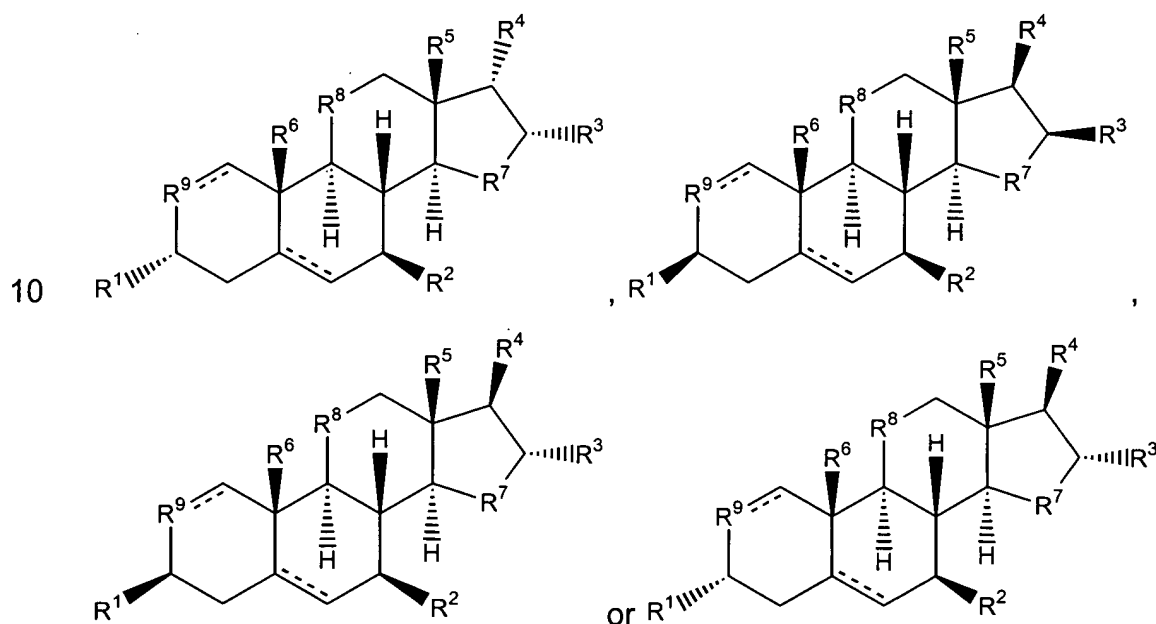


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This list of claims replaces the prior version of claims in the application:

5 Claims 1-49 (canceled)

50 (currently amended): A method to treat or ameliorate an inflammation condition in a subject, comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of a compound having the structure



wherein, the dotted lines are optional double bonds;

R¹ is -OH, -SH, an ester, an ether, a thioester or a thioether;

R² is -H, -OH, -SH, an ester, an ether, a thioester or a thioether;

15 R³ is -OH, =O, an ester, an ether, a thioester or a thioether;

R⁴ is -OH, -SH, =S, an ester, an ether, a thioester or a thioether;

R⁵ is -CH₃ or -CH₂OH;

R⁶ is -H or -CH₃;

R⁷ is -CH₂- or -CHR¹⁰-;

20 R⁸ is -CH₂-, -O- or -NH-;

R⁹ is -CH₂-, -CHR¹⁰-, -O- or -NH-; and

R¹⁰ independently are -OH, an ester, an ether, -SH, a thioester, a thioether or a halogen.

Claims 51-53 (canceled)

5

Claim 54 (currently amended): The method of claim 50 wherein R¹ and R³ are -OH, R² is -H and R⁴ is -OH or -SH.

10

Claim 55 (previously presented): The method of claim 50 wherein R¹, R³ and R⁴ are -OH and R² is -H.

Claim 56 (previously presented): The method of claim 50 wherein R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ are -OH.

15

Claim 57 (previously presented): The method of claim 50 wherein the inflammation condition is atopic asthma, allergic respiratory disease, allergic rhinitis, atopic dermatitis, subepithelial fibrosis in airway hyperresponsiveness, chronic sinusitis, perennial allergic rhinitis, allergic bronchopulmonary aspergillosis in cystic fibrosis patients, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, inflammatory bowel disease or fibrosing alveolitis.

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Claim 58 (currently amended): The method of claim 57 wherein R¹ and R³ are -OH, R² is -H and R⁴ is -OH or -SH.

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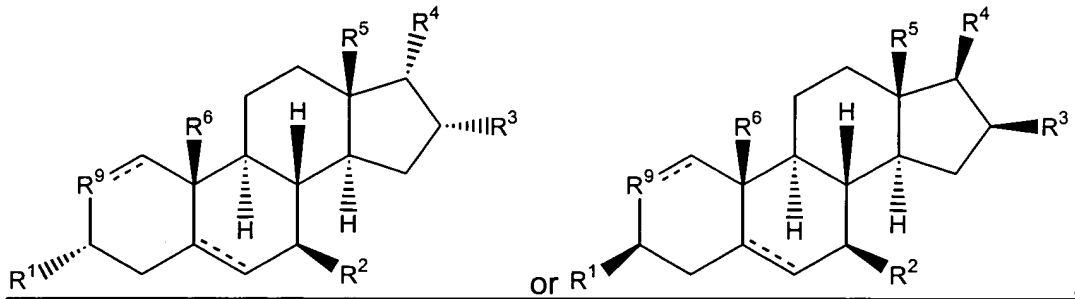
Claim 59 (previously presented): The method of claim 57 wherein R¹, R³ and R⁴ are -OH and R² is -H.

Claim 60 (previously presented): The method of claim 57 wherein R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ are -OH.

30

Claim 61 (previously presented): The method of claim 57 wherein the inflammation condition is atopic asthma.

5 Claim 62 (previously presented): The method of claim 61 wherein the compound has the structure



10 Claim 63 (currently amended): The method of claim 62 wherein R¹ and R³ are -OH, R² is -H and R⁴ is -OH or -SH.

Claim 64 (previously presented): The method of claim 62 wherein R¹, R³ and R⁴ are -OH and R² is -H.

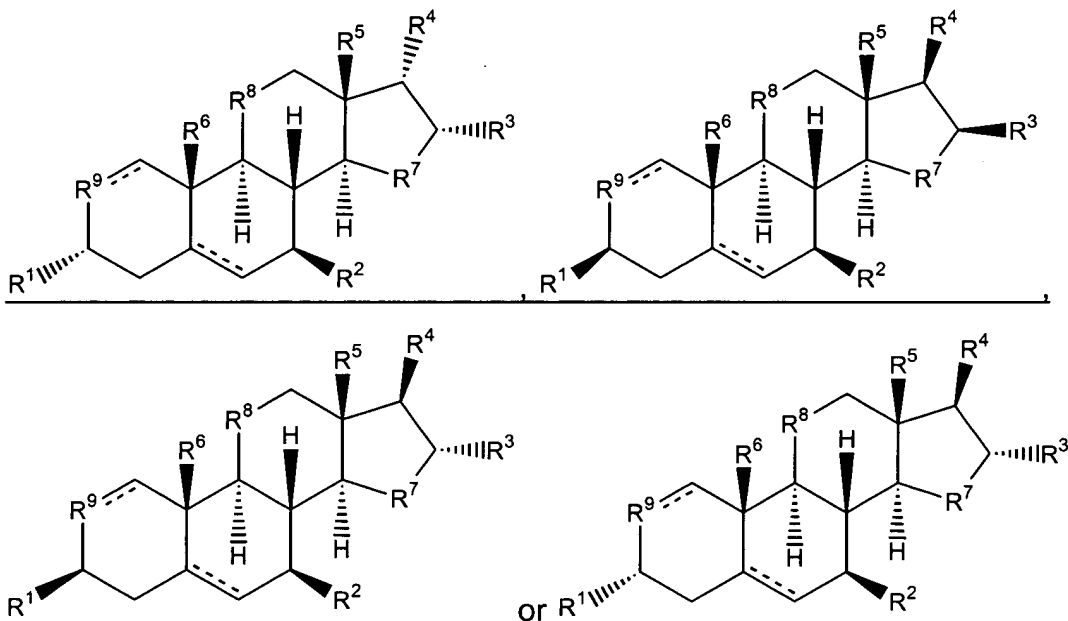
15 Claim 65 (previously presented): The method of claim 62 wherein R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ are -OH.

20 Claim 66 (currently amended): The method of claim 62 wherein the compound is 3 β ,7 β ,16 α ,17 β -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 α ,7 β ,16 α ,17 β -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 β ,7 β ,16 β ,17 β -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 β ,7 α ,16 α ,17 β -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 β ,7 α ,16 α ,17 α -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 β ,7 β ,16 α ,17 β -tetrahydroxyandrost-1,5-diene, 3 α ,7 β ,16 α ,17 β -tetrahydroxyandrost-1,5-diene, 3 β ,7 β ,16 β ,17 β -tetrahydroxyandrost-1,5-diene, 3 β ,7 α ,16 α ,17 β -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 β ,7 α ,16 α ,17 α -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 β ,16 α ,17 β -trihydroxy-5 α -androstane, 3 α ,16 α ,17 α -trihydroxy-5 α -androstane, 3 α ,16 β ,17 β -trihydroxy-5 α -androstane or 3 β ,16 β ,17 β -trihydroxy-5 α -androstane.

Claim 67 (currently amended): The method of claim 66 wherein the compound is $3\alpha,16\beta,17\beta$ -trihydroxy- 5α -androstane or $3\beta,16\beta,17\beta$ -trihydroxy- 5α -androstane.

5

Claim 68 (currently amended): A formulation comprising one or more excipients and a compound having the structure



wherein, the dotted lines are optional double bonds;

R^1 is -OH, -SH, an ester, an ether, a thioester or a thioether;

R^2 is -H, -OH, -SH, an ester, an ether, a thioester or a thioether;

R^3 is -OH, =O, an ester, an ether, a thioester or a thioether;

R^4 is -OH, -SH, =S, an ester an ether, a thioester or a thioether;

R^5 is -CH₃ or -CH₂OH;

R^6 is -H or -CH₃;

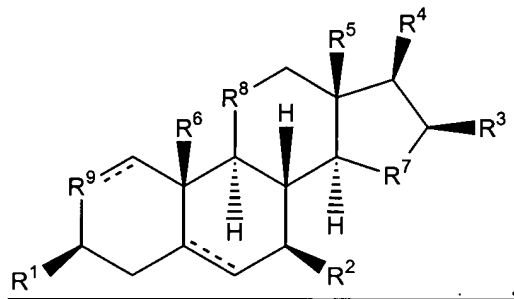
R^7 is -CH₂- or -CHR¹⁰-;

R^8 is -CH₂-, -O- or -NH-;

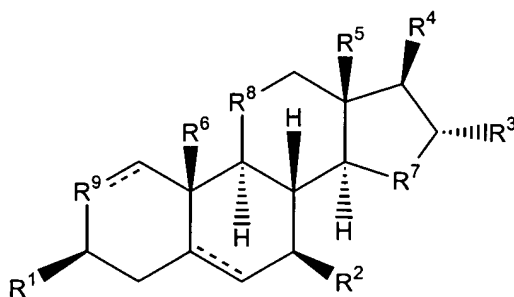
R^9 is -CH₂-, -CHR¹⁰-, -O- or -NH-; and

R^{10} independently are -OH, an ester, an ether, -SH, a thioester, a thioether or a halogen.

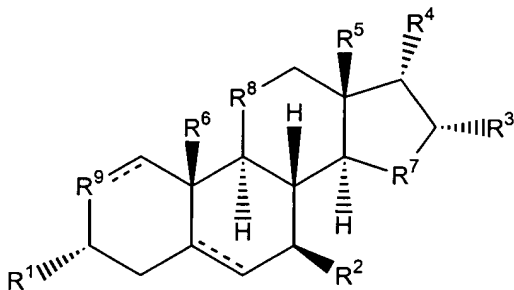
Claim 69 (previously presented): The formulation of claim 68 wherein the compound has the structure



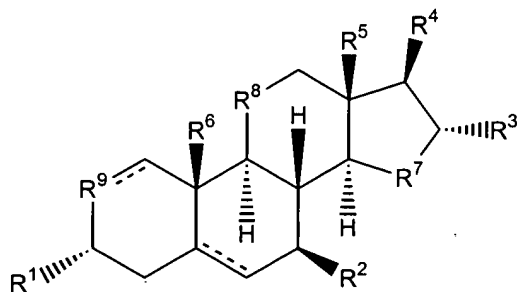
5 Claim 70 (previously presented): The formulation of claim 68 wherein the compound has the structure



10 Claim 71 (previously presented): The formulation of claim 68 wherein the compound has the structure



Claim 72 (previously presented): The formulation of claim 68 wherein the compound has the structure



Claim 73 (currently amended): The formulation of claim 68 wherein the compound is 3 β ,7 β ,16 α ,17 β -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 α ,7 β ,16 α ,17 β -
5 tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 β ,7 β ,16 β ,17 β -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 β ,7 α ,16 α ,17 β -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 β ,7 α ,16 α ,17 α -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 β ,16 α ,17 β -trihydroxy-5 α -androstane, 3 α ,16 α ,17 α -trihydroxy-5 α -androstane, 3 α ,16 β ,17 β -trihydroxy-5 α -androstane or 3 β ,16 β ,17 β -trihydroxy-5 α -androstane.

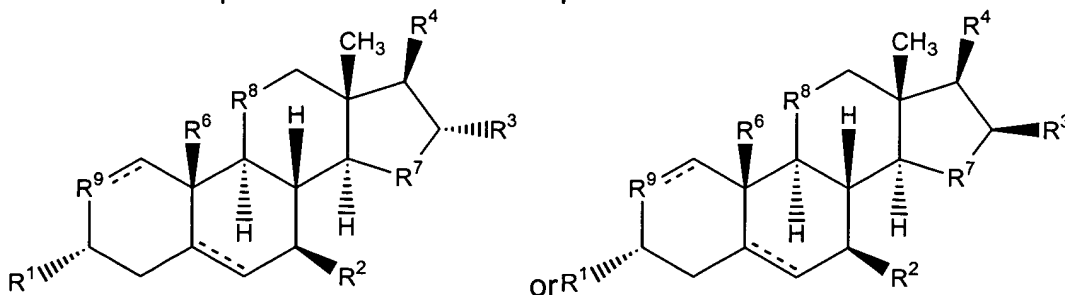
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Claim 74 (previously presented): The formulation of claim 68 wherein the formulation is a liquid for parenteral administration.

Claim 75 (previously presented): The formulation of claim 68 wherein the
15 liquid is a non-aqueous solution containing less than about 0.3% v/v water or a suspension in an aqueous liquid.

Claim 76 (previously presented): The formulation of claim 68 wherein the
20 formulation is a solid suitable for oral, buccal, sublingual or aerosol administration.

Claim 77 (new): The method of claim 57 wherein the inflammation condition is atopic asthma and the compound has the structure



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Claim 78 (new): The method of claim 77 wherein R^1 is -OH, -SH, an ester or an ether and R^4 is -OH, -SH, an ester or an ether.

5 Claim 79 (new): The method of claim 78 wherein R^2 is -H, -OH, -SH, an ester or an ether and R^3 is -OH, -SH, an ester or an ether.

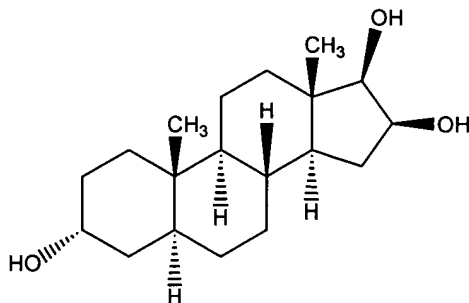
Claim 80 (new): The method of claim 79 wherein R^1 is -OH or -SH, R^2 is -H, and R^3 is -OH.

10 Claim 81 (new): The method of claim 80 wherein R^1 and R^4 are -OH.

Claim 82 (new): The method of claim 81 wherein R^7 , R^8 and R^9 are -CH₂-.

15 Claim 83 (new): The method of claim 80 wherein R^6 is -CH₃.

Claim 84 (new): The method of claim 83 wherein the compound has the structure



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